

John Robinson "Thinking in English"  
Basic Listening Midterm Script

**Part One: Instructions. Listen to the short story. Decide what is the best and most logical ending for the short story. Mark the answer on your scantron card. Each short story will be read and repeated once. I will read an example. Put your pencils down during this example:**

ex.

- a: She thinks it's awful.
- b: She thinks she drinks too much.
- c: She thinks it's delicious.
- d: She prefers soda.

**Which is the correct answer? Letter "C" is correct because it is the most logical ending for the story. Now, let's begin the test.**

1. Here is a picture of my family. My wife is 39. My son is 6. My daughter is 4. They are in San Francisco. My father is 69. My mother is 67. They are

- a: my children.
- b: my grandparents.
- c: my parents.
- d: my siblings.

2. The sun is yellow. The tree is green. The house is red. The door is black. The car is orange. The sky is blue today.

- a: It's overcast.
- b: It's a nice day.
- c: It raining.
- d: It's night time.

3. This car is small. That car is big. This car is dirty. That car is clean. This car is slow. That car is fast. This car is old. That car is

- a: slow
- b: ugly
- c: broken
- d: new

Basic English Listening - 1

4. His name is Jim. Her name is Kim. They are married. His hair is short. Her hair is long. He's tall. She's short. He's old. She's young. He's 65. She's

- a: 34
- b: older
- c: 70
- d: his sister

5. Pablo isn't from Brazil. He's from Argentina. He's not married. He's 28. He's short, but handsome. He's looking for a girl friend.

- a: He's old.
- b: He's from Brazil.
- c: He's single.
- d: He's tall.

6. The Number 22 bus stops at 16th and Valencia. A man is getting on. A woman is getting off. The bus driver is a woman. Her cap is brown. Her name is Tina. She's

- a: a good mechanic
- b: getting off the bus.
- c: a Police Woman.
- d: a good driver.

7. At the bus stop, many people are waiting. They're angry. The bus is not here. The bus driver is late. The people are going downtown.

- a: They're not happy.
- b: They're smiling.
- c: They're getting on the bus.
- d: They're bus drivers.

8. Ida is carrying many clothes. Her family is big. The clothes are dirty. Now, she's standing at the bus stop. She's waiting for the bus. She's going

- a: to the restaurant.
- b: home.
- c: to the laundromat.
- d: to a party.

Basic English Listening - 2

9. Amy is at the laundromat. She's washing her clothes. The white clothes are in the first washer. The colored clothes are in the second washer. The basket is on the floor. She's using

- a: two washers.
- b: only one washer.
- c: the dryer.
- d: two baskets.

10. Sam is mail carrier. He's carrying a mailbag. The mailbag is brown. It's heavy. He's happy. He's walking fast. The bag is full of

- a: groceries.
- b: letters.
- c: tools
- d: laundry.

11. At the post office, the line is long today. Many people are waiting. One window is open. Two windows are closed. Two clerks are eating lunch. A man is looking at his watch.

- a: It's 12:25 PM.
- b: It's 8:30 AM.
- c: It's Sunday morning.
- d: It's midnight.

12. Ling is at Sears. She is putting on a new jacket. This jacket is expensive. It's \$135.00. It's red and orange. It's too big. She's looking in a mirror. She's not happy.

- a: She'll probably buy it.
- b: It fits perfectly.
- c: She probably won't buy it.
- d: It's very cheap.

13. Sophia is in a big store. She's buying three dresses, two skirts, and one belt. Dresses, skirts, and belts are on sale today. The dresses are 40% off. The skirts are 35% off. The belt is 30% off.

- a: The clothes are too expensive.
- b: The clothes are less expensive.
- c: Shirts and pants are on sale today.
- d: The store never has discounts.

14. It's 7 o'clock. A man and a woman are sitting at a table. They're not married. They're dating. He likes her, and she likes him. They are looking at a menu. The waitress is coming to the table.

- a: They're getting married.
- b: They're going to eat lunch.
- c: They're breaking up.
- d: They're going to have dinner.

15. The fast food restaurant is busy. Many people are sitting at tables. Many people are waiting in line. Cars are waiting too. The food is inexpensive. This restaurant could be

- a: The Regency Hotel Lounge.
- b: La Rondalla.
- c: Mc Donald's.
- d: The Hong Kong Tea House.

16. I don't like Vassili's Restaurant. It's on 24th Street. It's small. It's not very busy. The food isn't good. The food is cold. The floor and walls aren't clean. The waitress is slow.

- a: It's my favorite restaurant.
- b: I'll probably go there again.
- c: I hate it.
- d: The food is terrific.

17. Sam is single. He's in the supermarket. It's 6 o'clock PM. He's tired and hungry. Sam is buying milk, popcorn, tomatoes, soup, crackers, and dog food for his dog.

- a: He'll cook his own dinner.
- b: He'll cook for his kids.
- c: His wife is cooking now.
- d: His wife is too tired to cook.

Basic English Listening - 3

18. Carol and her baby boy are in the supermarket. Carol is pushing shopping cart. Her baby boy is sitting in the shopping cart. He's 16 months old. He's crying.

- a: Carol is shopping alone.
- b: Carol is the boy's mother.
- c: Carol is in the shopping cart.
- d: Carol is pushing a car in the lot.

19. It's 4:30 in the afternoon. The customers are in line. The first customer is buying soap and toothpaste. The second customer is buying bananas, grapes, and oranges. The third customer is buying milk, cheese, and eggs.

- a: This is a drugstore.
- b: This is a restaurant.
- c: This is a taqueria
- d: This is a supermarket.

20. Yuri and Tanya are married. They have a one bedroom apartment. It's very nice. They like it very much. They live on the third floor, in the back. It's quiet.

- a: They live above a bar.
- b: They live in a nice apartment.
- c: They live with their parents.
- d: They have two children.

21. These people are rich. They have five million dollars. They have six cars. They don't have children. They have a new house. It's very large. It's by the ocean.

- a: They're homeless.
- b: They have six grandchildren.
- c: Their house is small.
- d: They have a lot of money.

22. Three men live together in an apartment. They don't like their apartment. It's very small. It's old and dirty. Many windows are broken. The street is very noisy.

- a: They're married.
- b: They're roommates.
- c: They in different apartments.
- d: They like their apartment.

23. Mr. and Mrs. Kim are in their sixties. They love TV. They have two TV's. They have a color TV in the bedroom, and another TV in the living room. They like to sit and eat and watch TV all day.

- a: They don't go out very often.
- b: They love parties.
- c: They have three TV's.
- d: They usually go to the movies.

24. The ambulance is going to the hospital. The red light is turning around. The driver is driving very fast. The woman inside is lying down. She isn't sleeping. She has two broken legs.

- a: She needs a permanent.
- b: She needs a doctor.
- c: She needs an ambulance.
- d: She needs a driver.

25. The doctor said to me, I need some stomach medicine. He gave me a prescription. He said, take two tablets every four hours. Now,

- a: I must see a doctor.
- b: I must go to a restaurant.
- c: I must go to a drugstore.
- d: I must get a prescription.

26. This is a large drugstore. It's very busy. You can buy many things in this drugstore. You can buy a camera, clothes, ice cream, a small TV, and medicine. However, you can't buy

- a: film.
- b: a shirt.
- c: a diamond ring.
- d: aspirin.

27. Hong works in an American restaurant. He works full time. He works five days a week. He has Monday and Tuesday off. He has a very good job.

- a: Hong is a pharmacist.
- b: Hong is a translator.
- c: Hong is a cook.
- d: Hong is a doctor.

28. Mr. and Mrs. Moody live in Ohio. He's 61 and she's 59. He is a bus driver and she is a bank clerk. He works at night, and she works in the daytime. They both work five days a week. They have Saturday and Sunday off.

- a: They both work.
- b: They don't work.
- c: She is a bus driver.
- d: They work on weekends.

29. More than 8,000 teenagers die every year in car accidents in the United States. They die because too many teenagers drive too fast. and drive after drinking

- a: coffee.
- b: orange juice.
- c: alcohol.
- d: hot chocolate.

30. I am the only girl in my family. I have four brothers. I almost always do the dishes and wash the clothes. My mother works, so I often do the cooking, too. My brothers almost never help clean the house.

- a: They should help me more.
- b: They should move out.
- c: They should make a mess.
- d: They should watch more TV.

31. We eat lots of lean meat and fresh fruit and vegetables. We get lots of exercise. Everyone in this house gets a good night's sleep. We take our vitamins every day. We are

- a: an angry family.
- b: a sad family.
- c: a healthy family.
- d: a hungry family.

**Part Two. Listen to the story. It will be read only once. Then, you will hear unfinished sentences about the story. Decide what is the best way to finish the sentences. Each unfinished sentence will be read twice.**

"Jennifer's Story" p. 38 Skill Sharpeners 2

My name is Jennifer. I work for Eagle Airlines. Eagle Airlines is the best airline in the country. We fly direct routes between most major cities. The people who work for Eagle Airlines are friendly and helpful. We make flying a comfortable experience. Our passengers arrive at the end of their trip relaxed and happy-and usually on time.

I work as a ticket agent. I begin work at 6:00 in the morning. That is the one bad thing about this job. Getting up at 5:00 every morning is very difficult. After I get to the airport, things get better. I stand behind the check-in counter. I greet passengers and check their tickets. I sell tickets to those who don't have them. I weigh and check luggage, assign seats, and give out boarding passes.

I get an hour off for lunch and one coffee break. The coffee break is very important. Lunch time is a long way off when you begin work at 6:00AM. At 2:30, work is over. The afternoon is the best part of the day to enjoy outdoors. Twice a week, I go horseback riding with friends from Eagle Airlines. Often I go out to dinner with other ticket agents. Eagle Airlines is a great place to work.

32. Jennifer works

- a: at a horse ranch.
- b: at an airline.
- c: at a restaurant.
- d: at a travel agency.

33. The bad thing about her job is

- a: She has long hours.
- b: She has to get up early.
- c: She has to help passengers.
- d: She has to sell tickets.

34. After work, Jennifer

- a: goes horseback riding.
- b: goes to another job.
- c: goes on an airplane.
- d: goes to lunch.

35. Eagle Airlines flights

- a: are usually late.
- b: are usually uncomfortable.
- c: are usually on time.
- d: are usually bumpy.

36. Jennifer is

- a: a pilot.
  - b: a stewardess.
  - c: a passenger.
  - d: a ticket agent.
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“The Yard Sale” p. 107 Skill Sharpeners 2

The families on First Street decided to have a yard sale. They all had a lot of junk. The sale was a big success. the problem was, they didn't sell much to the public. Each family bought things from their friends' tables.

Mrs. Brown bought Mrs. Baker's old sofa. Mrs. Baker paid \$5.00 for John's paperback books. John bought Mr. Williams's broken lamp. Mr. Williams paid \$10.00 for Mrs. Miller's vacuum cleaner. Mrs. Miller got some children's toys from Mrs. Walters. Mrs. Walters bought James's tickets to the policemen's dance. Mrs. Miller's children bargained for Louise's cookies. They finally paid \$1.50. Louise used the \$1.50 to buy a pair of women's shoes.

This went on all afternoon. At 5:00, everybody packed up their things and went home. And each family left with more junk than they started with.

37. The families on First Street

- a: had a yard sale.
- b: had a party.
- c: had a barbecue.
- d: exchanged gifts.

38. It was successful because

- a: They sold a lot to the public.
- b: They sold a lot to rich people.
- c: They didn't sell anything.
- d: They sold a lot to their friends.

39. At the sale, the families sold

- a: new cars.
- b: fur coats.
- c: junk.
- d: beer and wine.

40. The yard sale lasted

- a: all weekend.
- b: all night.
- c: all afternoon.
- d: all week.

41. Everything sold was less than

- a: twenty five cents.
  - b: twenty dollars.
  - c: a dollar fifty.
  - d: four dollars.
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“Claudia's English Classes” p. 117

Claudia wanted to find a good English program that didn't cost a lot of money. She needed to learn English to get a good job. She called her friends and asked them where they learned English. She looked in the yellow pages of the telephone book and called a few language schools. When she called a school, she asked them the cost, time, and length of their program. and their method of teaching. Some schools mailed her a bulletin with information about their school. After asking about many different programs, Claudia finally decided to study English at Mission Campus of City College of San Francisco. She lived near this school, so she didn't have to take BART or a bus. Before her classes started, Claudia filled out a short application form. She decided to take an intensive English class (three hours of ESL a day, one hour of

language lab, and one hour of homework) Claudia studied English for six months. She started at the beginning level and she worked very hard. She spoke English all the time and watched television often. She learned English well. When she completed her course, Claudia applied for a job as a computer technician.

42. Claudia needed to learn English

- a: to find an American boyfriend.
- b: to get a good job.
- c: to become a translator.
- d: to read newspapers.

43. She wanted a good English program that

- a: wasn't too far away.
- b: wasn't too expensive.
- c: wasn't too difficult.
- d: wasn't too crowded.

44. Claudia studied English

- a: for six years.
- b: for six weeks.
- c: for six months.
- d: for six days.

45. Before her classes started, Claudia

- a: filled out a registration form.
- b: became a computer technician.
- c: called her friends.
- d: read bulletins.

46. Because she lived near the school, Claudia didn't need

- a: to buy a book.
- b: to take a bus.
- c: to listen in class.
- d: to fill out a form.

47. Claudia started

- a: at a high level.
- b: at an intermediate level.
- c: at Level Five
- d: at the beginning level.

EasyTrue Stories, Page 3.

Jim is looking out his window. He sees two men in his neighbor's driveway. The men are carrying a big color TV. They are carrying the TV to a truck.

Jim opens his window. "Hey!" he says to the two men. "Are you TV repairmen?"

"Yes," the men answer.

"Are you going to fix that TV?" Jim asks.

"Yes," the men answer again.

"My TV is broken," Jim tells the men. "Can you take my TV, too?"

"Sure," the men say. "We can take your TV."

Jim gives the men his color TV. The men put the two TVs in the truck and drive away.

Jim never sees his TV again.

The two men aren't TV repairmen. They are robbers.

48. In his neighbor's driveway, Jim sees

- a: two trucks.
- b: two trees.
- c: two TV's.
- d: two men.

49. The men are carrying a TV

- a: to Jim's house.
- b: to a truck.
- c: to the neighbor's house.
- d: to the repair shop.

50. Jim thinks the two men are

- a: TV repairmen.
- b: neighbors.
- c: robbers.
- d: truck drivers.